

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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E.O. 11652: AGDS, 12-31-76
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
SUBJ: DATE OF DECEMBER DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING

REF: A. STATE 159036 (NOTAL)

B. USNATO 4061 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. AT JULY 25 DPC MEETING, US RAISED QUESTION OF DURATION OF DECEMBER DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING AND EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR ONE DAY SESSION. SYG LUNS LISTED FIVE CERTAIN MINISTERIAL AGENDA ITEMS AND SIX POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS. CONSENSUS FAVORED A MEETING OF LONGER THAN ONE DAY. LUNS COMMENTED THAT LAST TIME HE DISCUSSED THIS SUBJECT WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER, LUNS WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT SCHLESINGER FAVORED A LONGER MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. UNDER "OTHER BUSINESS" AT JULY 25 DPC MEETING, PREDERGAST (US) MADE A STATEMENT, FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IN CONFIDENTIAL

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REFTEL A, ON DURATION AND DATES FOR DECEMBER DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING AND ASKED FOR A FORECAST OF THE DPC AGENDA. STATEMENT REFERRED TO AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD'S LETTER DATED JULY 24 (WITH COPIES TO DPC PERMREPS AND CHAIRMAN, MC) TO SYG LUNS ON LENGTH

OF DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING DRAWN FROM REFTEL A. LUNS SAID THAT SEVERAL MINISTERS HAD TOLD HIM THAT ONE DAY DID NOT OFFER ENOUGH TIME FOR FULL DISCUSSIONS AND INFACt LAST TIME LUNS TALKED TO SECRETARY SCHLESINGER ON THIS SUBJECT, LUNS WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT SCHLESINGER FAVORED A LONGER MEETING.

2. LUNS LISTED FIVE ITEMS AS BEING CERTAIN TO APPEAR ON THE MINISTERIAL AGENDA: FORCE PLANS, KEY ELEMENTS OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, SPECIALIZATION, STANDARDIZATION AND COMMUNICATIONS; AND SIX ADDITIONAL POSSIBLE ITEMS: SACEUR'S FLEXIBILITY STUDY, REORGANIZATION OF TACTICAL AIR FORCES, INFRASTRUCTURE PROBLEMS, AIR TRANSPORT PROBLEMS, WARNING TIME, AND BURDENSHARING. ADM MINTER (MC REP) SAID ADVISABILITY OF SACEUR'S CONDUCTING A STUDY ON FLEXIBILITY HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED AND INDICATED IT IS PREMATURE TO LIST THIS SUBJECT AS A POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEM. PRENDERGAST POINTED OUT THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER HAD SUGGESTED SUCH A STUDY AND SAID US HOPES RESULTING REPORT WILL BE ON MINISTERIAL AGENDA.

3. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) FELT THAT UK MOD MASON'S SUGGESTION FOR A LONGER THAN ONE DAY MEETING IS A GOOD IDEA AND THAT A LONGER MEETING PROVIDED THE OPPOTUNITY FOR MINISTERS TO HOLD PRIVATE TALKS. LOGAN (UK) EXPECTED MINISTERS IN DISCUSSING FORCE PLANS WILL PROBABLY WANT TO FOLLOW UP THE US INITIATIVE IN FORCE GOALS EXERCISE BY A THOROUGH DISCUSSION OF FORCE PLANS. BUWALDA (NETHERLANDS) SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANCE TO CONTACT HIS MOD BUT HE KNEW VREDELING FAVORED A MEETING ALLOWING AMPLE TIME FOR PERSONAL CONTACTS BETWEEN MINISTERS AND THIS REQUIRED A MEETING OF

AT LEAST A DAY AND A HALF. BOSS (FRG) SAID MOD LEBER WANTED TIME FOR EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION. DENMARK AND ITALY ALSO SUPPORTED MEETING LASTING MORE THAN ONE DAY.

5. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE INFORMATION ABOUT AGENDA, ATTITUDES EXPRESSED BY OTHER DELEGATIONS, AND LUNS RECOLLECTION THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER MAY HAVE INDICATED FAVORABLE ATTITUDE TOWARD LENGTHENING
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DPC MINISTERIAL, REQUEST WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON FURTHER MISSION ACTION ON THIS MATTER.
RUMSFELD

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